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CORPORATION OF WELLS



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

## **MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

(including the Report of the Public Health Inspector)

**FOR THE YEAR**

**1971**



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CORPORATION OF WELLS

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

including the report of the Public Health Inspector

for the year ending 31st December 1971

Council Offices,  
21 Chamberlain Street,  
Wells,  
Somerset.



PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Deryck E. Clare, M.B.,B.S.,D.P.H.,M.F.C.M.,M.R.S.H.,

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J. Pinching, B.M.,B.Ch.,M.R.C.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

H. C. Birch., M.R.S.H.,F.A.P.H.I.,M.I.P.H.E.

Committees dealing with Public Health Matters

General Purposes Committee

Housing Committee



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Tel: Wells 73379 (Office)  
72643 72643 (Residence)

Area Health Office,  
37 Chamberlain Street,  
Wells, BA5 2PQ.

6th July 1972.

To: The Mayor, Aldermen & Councillors of the Wells City Council

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the Annual Report on the Health of the City of Wells for 1971, compiled in accordance with Department of Health and Social Security Circular 1/72.

In contrast to the previous year, the vital statistics showed a rise in the number of live births in the City, and live birth, still birth and death rates better than County and National rates. There was no maternal mortality and though an increase in deaths from cancer is recorded, deaths from accident fell to half the figure for 1970. The number of cases of notifiable disease reported was the lowest for the past five years.

During the year, negotiations were commenced by the Regional Hospital Board, the County Council and the Somerset Executive Council to provide a combined Community Hospital and Health Centre on the site of the Priory Hospital and these are still in progress.

Environmental health matters are comprehensively covered by the excellent report of the Surveyor/Public Health Inspector, to whom I am most grateful for his ready co-operation and expertise.

My thanks are also due to the Town Clerk, other Officers, Members and local colleagues for their continued support.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

D. E. CLARE

Medical Officer of Health



# GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Borough (in acres)	1,336
Estimated Population (mid-year 1971)	8,590
Number of inhabited houses	2,924
Rateable Value	£383,842
Product of a Penny Rate	£ 3,756

## MAIN VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1971

(With comparative figures for Somerset and England & Wales where available)

### BIRTHS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Wells City</u>		<u>Somerset</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales</u> (Prov)
				<u>Recorded</u>	<u>Corrected</u>		
Legitimate	70	55	125				
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>				
Totals	<u>71</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>132</u>			9079	783,165
Rate per 1,000 population				15.4	18.5	16.5	16.0
(Area Births Comparability Factor 1.20)						(Corrected)	
Ratio of local corrected birth rate to national rate							1.16

### Illegitimate Live Births

(per cent of total live births)	5.0	6.0	8.0
---------------------------------	-----	-----	-----

### Still Births

Legitimate	-	1	1	112	8,826
Illegitimate	-	-	-	<u>9</u>	<u>1,072</u>
Totals	-	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>121</u>	<u>9,898</u>

Rate per 1,000 live & still births	8.0	13.0	12.0
------------------------------------	-----	------	------

### Total Live & Still Births

71	62	133	9,200	793,063
----	----	-----	-------	---------

### DEATHS

<u>Total Deaths</u> (all ages)	47	89	136	7,575	567,345
-----------------------------------	----	----	-----	-------	---------

Rate per 1,000 population	15.8	7.9	10.5	11.6
(Area Deaths Comparability Factor .50 )			(Corrected)	

Ratio of local corrected death rate to national rate .68





	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Wells City</u> <u>Recorded</u>	<u>Corrected</u>	<u>Somerset</u>	<u>England</u> <u>&amp; Wales</u> <u>(Prov)</u>
<u>DEATHS (Contd)</u>							
<u>Infant Deaths</u> <u>(under 1 year)</u>							
Legitimate	1	-	1			124	12,140
Illegitimate	-	-	-			16	1,586
Totals	1	-	1			140	13,726
<u>(under 4 weeks)</u>							
Legitimate	1	-	1			79	8,121
Illegitimate	-	-	-			10	992
Totals	1	-	1			89	9,113
<u>(under 1 week)</u>							
Legitimate	1	-	1			66	6,903
Illegitimate	-	-	-			7	847
	1	-	1			73	7,750

#### INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total Infant deaths per 1,000 total live births .....	8.0	15.0	18.0
Legitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births.....	8.0	14.5	17.0
Illegitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births.....	-	20.0	24.0

#### NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATES

(deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births).....	8.0	10.0	12.0
--	-----	------	------

#### EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

(deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births).....	8.0	8.0	10.0
---	-----	-----	------

#### PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE

(still births & deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 live & still births).....	15.0	21.0	22.0
--	------	------	------

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion) ..

Number of deaths			
Rate per 1,000 total live & still births	-	1	.11



CERTAIN VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD 1967 - 1971  
WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR SOMERSET AND ENGLAND AND WALES

	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
<u>1. Corrected Birth Rate</u>					
Wells City	17.93	18.6	20.8	15.1	18.5
Somerset	17.7	16.9	16.8	15.1	16.5
England & Wales	17.2	16.9	16.3	16.0	16.0
<u>Corrected Death Rate</u>					
Wells City	10.15	7.9	8.4	8.1	7.9
Somerset	10.1	10.9	10.8	10.6	10.5
England & Wales	11.2	11.9	11.9	11.7	11.6
<u>3. Infant Mortality Rate</u>					
Wells City	23.3	8.0	21.0	19.0	8.0
Somerset	14.0	15.6	16.0	17.0	16.0
England & Wales	18.3	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES  
(5 year period 1967-1971)

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified</u>				
	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>
Dysentery	4	2	4	5	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	2	-	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-	2	-	-
Measles	190	17	6	92	6
Scarlet Fever	-	1	-	1	-
Tuberculosis(Respiratory)	1	-	-	-	1
Tuberculosis(Non-Respiratory)	1	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	6	3	-	-	-
Totals	202	23	14	93	7





CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1971  
(As given by the Registrar General)

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all Ages	Under 4 wks	4 wks & under 1 year	Age in Years									
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & upwds	
Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Malignant Neoplasm Intestine	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Leukaemia	M	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other Malignant Neoplasms	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Diabetes Mellitus	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Multiple Sclerosis	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Other Diseases of Nervous System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
Hypertensive Disease	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	



CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1971  
(As given by the Registrar General)

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all Ages	Under 4 wks	4 wks & under 1 year									
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & upwds
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	6
	F	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	7
Other Forms of Heart Disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	6
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	7
	F	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	22
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Pneumonia	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	F	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Bronchitis & Emphysema	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary Syst	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Diseases of Musculo Skeletal System	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour &c	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Symptoms & Ill Defined Conditions	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
All other Accidents	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total All Causes	M	47	1	-	-	-	3	-	1	2	4	17	19
	F	89	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	3	6	17	61





## NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1971

(In general, the figures are too small for much significance to be attached to them.)

### Population

A figure of 8,590 is given for the population of Wells by the Registrar General's census of 1971, showing an increase of 210 over that for the previous year, and deaths exceeded live births by 4.

### Births

Live Births rose to 132, which is 26 more than in 1970, and, when adjusted by the Area Births Comparability Factor, the birth rate is better than the National figure and also that of the County. The percentage of illegitimate live births was less than County and National figures.

Still Births remained at 1 only, giving a Still Birth rate again noticeably better than that of Somerset or England & Wales.

### Deaths

All Ages totalled 1 more than in the previous year, but on adjustment by the Area Deaths Comparability Factor, the death rate continues to be noticeably lower than County and National rates.

Infant Deaths with only 1 death and that at under 1 week, the Infant Mortality, Neo-Natal Mortality, Early Neo-Natal Mortality and Perinatal Mortality rates compare favourably with those of the County and England & Wales.

Maternal Mortality it is a pleasure to record that this was nil.

### CAUSES OF DEATH

Heart, Cerebrovascular and Other Diseases of the Circulatory System with 81 deaths again took leading place in the causes of death in the City, but totalled 2 less than in 1970. Of these, heart diseases accounted for 38 deaths, predominantly in women, and cerebrovascular diseases similarly for 38 deaths.

Cancer with 17 deaths, 5 more than in 1970, rose to second place as the cause of mortality, and as regards site, lung and bronchus led with 4 deaths, followed by stomach with 3. In both instances, there was a higher mortality amongst males and, except for one case of leukaemia, all the cancer deaths occurred over the age of 45 years.

Respiratory Diseases deaths fell by 6 to a total of 8, and of this, pneumonia accounted for 6 deaths, mainly in females.

Accidents with 3 deaths, fell to half the figure for the previous year and 2 of these involved a motor vehicle.



NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (see 5-year table)

Apart from 6 cases of measles and an isolated case of respiratory tuberculosis in an adult, no further cases of notifiable disease were reported in the City.

ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING & HUMAN SALMONELLA INFECTIONS

No cases of Food Poisoning or Human Salmonella Infections were notified in the City during 1971.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (SEC.47)  
AND AMENDMENT ACT, 1951

No cases requiring action under the provisions of these Acts occurred during 1971.





### MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

The Mass Radiography Unit visited the Union Street Car Park at monthly intervals throughout the year. General Practitioner referrals included in the figures given below numbered 10.

	Male	Female	Total
Numbers examined	165	200	365
Abnormalities detected	2	3	5

### DETAILS OF ABNORMALITIES DETECTED

	Male	Female	Total
Bronchitis & Emphysema	2	-	2
Dorsal Scoliosis	-	2	2
Spontaneous Pneumothorax	-	1	1



REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To: The Mayor, Aldermen & Councillors,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1971.

This year there has been no major legislation effecting the work of the department.

The general standard of environmental conditions in the City is considered to be satisfactory, and the statistical record of the report requires no comment.

In housing matters, the Southover area still has properties which have remained vacant now for many years, with all the attendant hazards and dangers which such a situation produces. With the emphasis now on conservancy and especially preservation of older properties, a determined effort should be made towards solving the problems of the old vacant houses in the town, of which there is now a considerable number.

Standards in food premises remain consistently high with few exceptions. Complaints from the public are uncommon, and regular routine inspections are made and advice given to the proprietors where improvements are necessary, and especially when new premises are to open.

Once again I would like to express my gratitude to the Mayor and Members of the Council, and also to the Medical Officer of Health for continued support at all times.

H. C. BIRCH

City Surveyor and Public Health Inspector



## WATER SUPPLY

The Bristol Waterworks Company are the undertakers for the whole of the public supply to the City.

### Quantity

Consumption figures of water for the City are not now available from the Bristol Waterworks Company, but a sufficient quantity of water was available throughout the year for all purposes.

### Sources

The main sources of supply of the City water is from the Holes Ash Spring and Rookham and Vigo boreholes situated on the southern slopes of the Mendip Hills above the town, and from two boreholes situated on the Athletic Ground in the town. In addition a supplementary supply is provided by pipeline from outside sources.

(a) Public                      The sources of supply to the City are as follows:-

#### Athletic Ground

Nos.1 & 2 boreholes

Rookham & Vigo boreholes  
& Holes Ash Spring

Additional supplies are obtained from  
Cheddar, Honeyhurst and Priddy.

(b) Private

Tudway Estates have a private water supply which is piped to a small number of houses in the City and supplies the Cathedral Grammar School. This supply, derived from a spring on the Mendip Hills, is fed to a reservoir at Walcombe and thence for distribution.

Boreholes there are also 3 private borehole supplies, and the water supplied by these is used for industrial purposes.





## WATER EXAMINATION

The results below are samples of water taken by this office and the Bristol Waterworks Company from public and private supplies for bacteriological examination:-

### BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

<u>Raw Waters</u>	No. of samples examined	Average No. of Faecal Coliforms per 100 ml	Average No. of Non-Faecal Coliforms per 100 ml	Colonies on Agar 2 days at 37° C
Holes Ash & Vigo	25	1	1	4
Cheddar	24	21	48	78
Honeyhurst	25	19	31	18
Priddy	25	5	10	23
<u>Treated Waters</u>	No. of samples examined	No. free from Faecal Coliforms	No. free from Non-Faecal Coliforms	% Satisfactory
Athletic Ground	46	46	46	100
Holes Ash & Vigo	45	45	43	95
Cheddar	44	44	44	100
Honeyhurst	47	47	47	100
Priddy	47	45	45	96
<u>Distribution System</u>	234	230	227	97

## Chemical Examination

Details of the results from chemical examination are given on the table which follows, and have been supplied by Bristol Waterworks Company.

## Chemical Purity

All sources provide water which is of satisfactory chemical purity.





## Chemical Examination

Details of results of chemical examinations were as follows:-

	Athletic Ground Bore	Holes Ash Spring
Total Solids	454	216
Chloride as Cl	24	15
Nitrate as N	2.6	2.2
Nitrite as N	0.001	0.001
Saline Ammonia as N	0.007	0.006
Albuminoid Ammonia as N	0.005	0.004
Oxygen Absorbed 3 hours @ 37° C	0.06	0.05
Total hardness as $\text{CaCO}_3$	330	171
Calcium hardness as $\text{CaCO}_3$	200	144
Magnesium hardness as $\text{CaCO}_3$	130	27
Alkalinity as $\text{CaCO}_3$	287	157
pH	7.4	7.5
Sulphate as $\text{SO}_4$	85.2	19.1
Sodium as Na	30.0	8.8
Potassium as K	4.1	2.0
Silica as $\text{SiO}_2$	7.7	6.9
Phosphate as $\text{PO}_4$	-	-
Iron as Fe	0.01	0.01
Manganese as Mn	0.01	0.01

All results in parts per million



Water Examination contd.

Hardness

The water from all the sources of supply is hard, the hardness being mainly temporary in character.

NATURAL FLUORIDE CONTENT IN WATER SUPPLIES IN THE  
WELLS CITY AREA

Fluoride being expressed as fluorine in parts per million

<u>Source</u>	<u>Average Fluoride</u>
Holes Ash Spring	0.01
Athletic Ground Boreholes Nos.1 & 2	0.4



### Piped Supplies

Almost every house in the City has an internal piped water supply. The number of supplies is set out below, the figures being supplied by the Bristol Waterworks Company.

#### No. of supplies to 31st December 1971

Measured	50
Unmeasured	2970
Council Houses	679
	<u>3699</u>

#### Length of mains laid

27 metres	3"
791 "	4"
119 "	6"
<u>937 metres</u>	

### Rainfall

The rainfall figure for 1971 was 807.8 m.m. (31.80")

Previous years rainfall figures were as follows:-

1966	38.70 inches	
1967	35.74 "	
1968	34.12 "	
1969	29.40 "	
1970	36.12 "	(916.6 m.m)



## PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

Samples of water are taken at regular intervals from the open air Public Swimming Baths at Princes Road during the summer season.

The samples are taken from the inlet or shallow end and from the outlet or deep end.

Samples are also taken from the childrens' Paddling Pool.

Water for the baths is taken from the mains supply and passes through a continuous pressure sand filter and is chlorinated.

The turnover of the water in the baths takes place every four hours.

The daily average number of bathers during the season was 307.

### Samples

Samples were taken, 10 from the Swimming Pool and 4 from the Paddling Pool, with the following results:-

	Satisfactory	Suspicious	Unsatisfactory
Swimming Pool	10	Nil	Nil
Paddling Pool	4	Nil	Nil

### Private Swimming Baths

There is also an open air swimming bath at the Secondary Modern School at Kennion Road. No samples were taken from this bath during the year.







## SEWAGE DISPOSAL

### Methods of Disposal

Almost all the houses and premises in the City are served by main sewer, the outfall being at Burcott, where the Sewage Disposal Works are situated.

There are approximately 30 houses using septic tank and soakaway systems. Usually this is because they are not served by a sewer within a reasonable distance, or because adjacent sewers are not at suitable depths. They are, for the most part, isolated from the main urban area of the town, generally being situated at the boundaries of the district. They do not create a nuisance, but, due to the clayey nature of the subsoil of the district, there is a tendency for ponding to take place on the soakaway area, especially during periods of heavy rainfall and in the winter when loss from evaporation is at a minimum. As the sewerage system extends with building development adjacent properties are usually connected to the sewers and the number of properties relying on septic tanks are consequently reduced.

### Sewer Extensions & Improvements

Sewer extensions and improvements during the year were as follows:-

<u>Sewer Extensions</u>			
	<u>4" dia.</u>		<u>6" dia.</u>
Burcott Road Estate	27.43m (29 yds)		-
Kidderbank	92.35m (103 yds)		-
Keward Rise Estate	114.30m (125 yds)	280.72m (307 yds)	
Kippax Avenue	164.89m (180 yds)	122.53m (134 yds)	
Churchill Road Estate	-	33.00m (36 yds)	
Others	35.69m (39 yds)		-
	<u>434.66m (476 yds)</u>	<u>436.25m (477 yds)</u>	

  

<u>Storm Sewer Extensions</u>				
	<u>12" dia.</u>	<u>9" dia.</u>	<u>6" dia.</u>	<u>4" dia.</u>
Keward Rise Estate	82.30m(90 yds)	128.93m(141 yds)	99.67m(109 yds)	56.69m(62 yds)
Kippax Avenue	-	-	149.05m(163 yds)	-
	<u>82.30m(90 yds)</u>	<u>128.93m(141 yds)</u>	<u>248.72m(272 yds)</u>	<u>56.69m(62 yds)</u>

### Effluents

By arrangement with the Somerset County Public Analyst, monthly samples are taken for chemical analysis, to ensure that the final discharge to the watercourse complies with the recommended limits.

Of the 11 samples taken, 2 were satisfactory, 5 were slightly below recommended limits and 4 were unsatisfactory.



A typical average report on a sample of the sewage effluent was that for July 1971:-

	Parts per million
Physical characters	Turbid
Reaction	Very slightly alkaline
pH	7.3
Solids in suspension	36.0
Total alkalinity (as Ca CO <sub>3</sub> )	290.0
Chloride (as Cl)	80.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (as N)	7.2
Organic Nitrogen	-
Nitrate Nitrogen	14.8
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in four hours at 27° C	8.5
Biochemical Oxygen demand in 5 days at 20° C	21.0

This effluent is slightly below standard when judged on the recommended limits of 30 parts per million suspended solids and 20 parts per million biochemical oxygen demand for an effluent to be discharged to a clean river or stream where the dilution is not less than one in eight.

#### RIVER POLLUTION

Number of cases dealt with during the year - Nil





## REFUSE COLLECTION

A weekly combined refuse and salvage collection is carried out in the City.

Disposal of household refuse is by semi-controlled tipping at Dulcote Quarry, which is shared for this purpose by the Wells Rural District Council.

Some trade refuse is also disposed of by a similar method at the tip at Burcott Sewage Disposal Works. Both tips are maintained in a good state and there is no nuisance.

## HOUSING

### Council House Programme

It can be seen from the table below that no dwellings were completed during the year. However, by the end of the year, 8 units had commenced at the Churchill Road East area, the full scheme will comprise the erection of 27 dwellings and 26 garages.

	Houses erected during year		Houses in course of construction 31.12.71	
	Slum Clearance	Other Purposes	Slum Clearance	Other Purposes
Local Authority	Nil	Nil	Nil	8
Private Enterprise	Nil	62	Nil	75
	Nil	62	Nil	83

### Types of Dwellings

The following types of dwellings were erected during the year:-

#### Private Enterprise

1 bedroom	-	1
2 "	-	7
3 "	-	53
4 "	-	1





Houses erected in previous years were as follows:-

	<u>Local Authority</u>	<u>Private Enterprise</u>	<u>Total</u>
1966	Nil	72	72
1967	15	72	87
1968	19	69	88
1969	19	97	116
1970	6	70	76

Total number of post-war dwellings completed:-

By Local Authority	473
By Private Enterprise	<u>1115</u>
	<u>1588</u>

Houses sold                      No Council houses were sold during 1971

At the end of the year the number of applications for Council houses were as follows:-

Urgent bona fide cases	-
Old people	93
Others	167
	<u>260</u>

#### OVERCROWDING

No case of statutory overcrowding occurred in 1971, and, in general, the overcrowding position in the City is not serious. Occasional cases occur which are not a contravention of the Housing Act, but nevertheless are a cause for concern. Such cases are the subject of a special report to the Housing Committee, who, if necessary provide accommodation to relieve the situation.



### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Once again there has been a considerable number of properties improved under the provisions of the Housing Act 1969. The Act provides grants for owners of property who are willing to undertake improvements or conversions. Certain repairs are also admissible for inclusion in grant applications.

The grant system has always been fully operated by the Council and is well established. Most owners contemplating improvements, modernisation or conversion, readily take advantage of it.

### DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

Number of applications and houses dealt with during the year:-

Approved		Refused	
<u>Applications</u>	<u>No. of premises</u>	<u>Applications</u>	<u>No. of premises</u>
17	22	Nil	Nil

Number of grants approved for owner/occupiers .....	15
Number of grants for landlords .....	7
Average cost per dwelling approved.....	£1525
Average amount of grant per dwelling.....	£ 680
Total amount of grant payments approved by local authority.....	£14,969

The total number of premises for which grants have been approved since commencement of the grant scheme in 1954 is 216.



### STANDARD GRANTS

Number of applications approved .....	5
Number of properties .....	6
Number of applications from owner/occupiers .....	2
Number of applications from landlords .....	3
Number of applications refused .....	Nil
Average amount of grant per dwelling .....	£ 171
Total amount of grant payments approved by Local Authority..	£1030

Types of amenities to be provided:-

Baths .....	2
Washhand Basins .....	2
Hot Water Supplies .....	6
Water Closets (internal) ...	3
Sinks .....	<u>2</u>
	<u>15</u>

The total number of applications approved since the commencement of the scheme in 1959 is 105.





SLUM CLEARANCE AND UNFIT HOUSES

Houses Demolished

- (a) Houses demolished in Clearance Areas ..... Nil
- (b) Houses demolished and as a result of procedure  
under Section 17 (1) of the Housing Act 1957..... Nil

Unfit Houses Closed

- (a) Under Sections 16, 17 and 35 of the Housing Act 1957..... Nil
- (b) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 of the Housing Act 1957 .... Nil
- (c) By informal procedure ..... Nil

Unfit Houses made fit and in which defects were remedied

- (a) After informal action by Local Authority ..... 43
- (b) After formal notice under Public Health or Housing Acts ..... 4

Unfit Houses in Temporary Use

(Housing Act 1957) ..... Nil

Purchase of Houses by Agreement

Houses in Clearance Areas purchased in the year Nil



## HOUSING INSPECTIONS

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for  
housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..... 47

Number of houses in which no action was found necessary..... 22

Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous  
and injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation..... 4

Number of dwelling houses found not to be in  
all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ..... 21

### Action under Statutory Powers

Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act 1957..... Nil

Proceedings under Public Health Acts ..... Nil

Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act 1957..... Nil

## HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

The legislation controlling houses in multiple occupation is by the Housing  
(Management of Houses in Multiple Occupation) Regulations 1962.

The type of houses in which this problem may arise is the larger dwelling, now  
too big for the use of one family, and consequently let off into units.  
Such lettings can command high rents often unjustified by the amenities available.

Fortunately, there are not many such houses in the City, and consequently the  
problem is not likely to be great. Nevertheless there are a number of houses  
which fall into the category. One such house was visited during 1971 and found  
to be wanting in amenities.

## RENT ACT 1957.

During the year no applications for a Certificate of Disrepair were received.

### Housing Act 1969

The provisions of Part III of this Act enable landlords to increase rentals if  
the housing unit complies with the standards set out. In order to ensure that  
the property qualifies in this respect, inspections are necessary and qualification  
certificates obtained from the Council.

The total number of applications for certificates during the year was 14, as  
follows:-

Qualification Certificates approved	10
Qualification Certificates approved provisionally	3
Qualification Certificates refused	1
	<u>14</u>





## FOOD INSPECTION

Visits to food premises and warehouses resulted in the following quantities of food being disposed of as unfit for human consumption:-

<u>Foods</u>		<u>Frozen Foods</u>		<u>Canned Foods</u>	
Fish	18 lbs	Fish	105 lbs	Pork Luncheon Meat	4 lbs
Ham	11 "	Beef	10 "	Meats	24 "
Vegetables	12 "	Beefburgers	8 "	Vegetables	32 "
Rissoles	11 "	Vegetables	96 "	Fruits	86 "
Pies	14 "	Sweetmeats	33 "		
Beef	12 "	Fruit Juices	28 "		
Tongues	3 "	Meat Pies	34 "		
		Various	2 "		
	<u>81 lbs</u>		<u>2 cwt 92 lbs</u>		<u>1 cwt 34 lbs</u>

The total quantity of foodstuffs condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year amounted to 3 cwt. 97 lbs.

### Complaints

The following complaints were received with regard to foreign bodies in foodstuffs or foodstuffs sold in an unsuitable condition:-

Cigarette stub in portion of chips  
Cloth label in sausage roll  
6 mouldy fruit pies  
1 mouldy fruit pie

These complaints were investigated and detailed reports submitted to the General Purposes Committee.

In all cases warnings were issued to the responsible persons or firms concerned. No prosecutions were taken.





## FOOD INSPECTION (contd)

### Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963

No samples of liquid egg were submitted for examination in 1971.

### ICE CREAM

#### Number of Premises Registered

- (a) For manufacture only ..... Nil
- (b) For retail only ..... 30
- (c) For manufacture and retail..... 1

#### Sampling

The total number of Ice Cream samples taken during the year was 10.

The results were as follows:-

	<u>Hot Mix</u>	<u>Cold Mix</u>
Grade I	3	3
Grade II	2	2
Grade III	-	-
Grade IV	-	-
	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

The high bacteriological standard of the products of the large manufacturers of ice cream has resulted in a minimum number of samples taken for analysis.



# FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960

## Food Premises

The types of food premises, and information as required by the Minister of Health regarding the installation of washhand basins (Regulation 16) and the facilities for washing equipment (Regulation 19) are shown in the following table:-

<u>Type of Food Premises</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Reg. 19</u> <u>Applicable</u>	<u>Compliance with</u>	
			<u>Reg. 16</u>	<u>Reg. 19</u>
Butchers	8	6	6	6
Chemists & Druggists	3	-	3	-
Confectionery Shops	6	6	6	6
Greengrocers	8	-	4	-
Fish Shops	2	2	2	2
Fish & Chip Shops	2	2	-	2
Sweet Shops	19	-	12	-
General Shops	3	-	3	-
Mobile Shops	2	-	-	-
Canteens	7	7	7	7
Grocers Shops	19	19	14	14
Cafes	9	9	9	9
Licensed Premises	17	11	8	11
Snack Bars	1	1	1	1
Bakehouses	1	1	1	1
School Kitchens & Dining Centres	6	6	6	6
Hotels	8	8	8	8
Guest Houses	23	11	6	8
Food Manufacturing Premises	1	1	1	1
Cheese Stores	3	3	3	3
	<u>148</u>	<u>93</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>85</u>
Totals				

A total of 62 visits were paid to food premises in connection with work under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.



## Improvements Effected

### Food Premises

Complete reconstruction	2
Extensions of inadequate premises	1
General sanitary conditions improved	4
Additional water closets provided	1
Sinks provided	2
Repairs to sanitary accommodation	8
Washhand basins provided	1
Provision of first aid materials	8
Rooms redeocrated	6
Rooms replastered	-
Clothes cupboards provided	2
Improved artificial lighting	4
Improved ventilation	1
Other repairs	9
New equipment provided	8
	<u>57</u>

### MILK SUPPLIES

#### General

Total number of Dairy Farms	7
Total number of Retailers	6
Number of Producer/Retailers	-
Number of Licensed Pasteurisation plants	-

Licensing of dealers in milk is now a function of the County Council who are also responsible for routine milk sampling. Monthly reports are received from the County Council giving results of samples. The table below gives results of samples taken from retailers of milk in the City:-

#### Milk Sampling

Designation	Samples Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Untreated	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pasteurised	108	107	1
Sterilised	1	1	Nil
	109	108	1





### MEAT SUPERVISION

Number of Licensed Slaughterhouses in District - 1  
Number of Licensed Knackers Yards in District - Nil

#### Slaughterhouse

Although the slaughterhouse in South Street retains its licence, no slaughtering took place at this establishment during the year.



## RODENT CONTROL

### Sewer Maintenance Treatment

One sewer maintenance test treatment was undertaken during the year.

There are 110 manholes on the sewer system in the City.

Treatment involved 11 of these at strategic points, and resulted in 2 positive takes on the system.

There is, however, a large portion of the sewers, especially in the central town area which have no accessible points by manholes and testing and treatment is thus not possible. Unfortunately, the central area contains the old masonry sewers, which are most likely to be infested and observations from surface infestations suggest that this is so. So that although treatment and testing of the sewers is regularly undertaken, there is always likely to be a nucleus of infestation in the centre of the town.

### Surface Infestations

The year was free from serious rat infestation and there was a decrease in the number of infestations.

Warfarin was used as the poison for most treatments but where this may not be swift enough, zinc phosphide is used.

Details are given below in the form required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries:-

### PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS

	<u>Type of Property</u>	
	<u>Non-Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
1) Number of properties in district	3586	26
2) (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	89	-
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	84	-
(ii) Mice	5	-
3) (a) Total number of properties inspected for reasons other than notification	38	-
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	-	-
(ii) Mice	-	-



## OFFICES & SHOPS

The health, welfare and safety of employees in offices and shops is provided for under the provisions of The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963. Railway premises are not the responsibility of Local Authorities.

Registration of all premises is compulsory, and the following table gives a statistical account of the present position in the City.

General inspections under the Act require technical knowledge and take a considerable amount of time. Consequently the majority of inspections are undertaken whilst a visit is being made to the premises for some other purpose, and are often restricted to a single item under the Act, such as temperature requirements.

### Registration & General Inspections

Class of premises	Number of premises registered in 1971	Total No. of premises registered at end of year	General inspections	Persons employed	
				M	F
Offices	-	41	8	162	141
Shops	-	97	26	168	323
Wholesale Departments Warehouses	-	1	1	44	3
Catering Establishments Canteens	-	11	11	22	63
Fuel Storage Depots	-	2	2	4	-
TOTALS	-	152	48	400	530

### Inspections

Total number of visits of all kinds to registered premises ..... 71





Contraventions

Section	Number of Contraventions found		Section	Number of Contraventions found	
4	Cleanliness	8	13	Sitting facilities	-
5	Overcrowding	-	14	Seats (Sedentary Workers)	-
6	Temperature	3	15	Eating facilities	-
7	Ventilation	1	16	Floors, passage & stairs	2
8	Lighting	2	17	Fencing exposed parts machinery	-
9	Sanitary Conveniences	4	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	-
10	Washing facilities	1	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	-
11	Supply of Drinking Water	-	23	Prohibition of heavy work	-
12	Clothing Accommodation	5	24	First aid General Provisions	5
				Total	31

Exemptions

No exemptions were applied for or granted

Prosecutions

Nil

Accidents

No accidents were reported in the year



## FACTORIES

The number of factories on the register at the end of the year was 46.

The number of inspections made was 33. An abstract of the results of these inspections in the form required by the Ministry of Labour and National Service is set out below.

### ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT 1937

#### Part I of the Act

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(a) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	1	Nil	Nil
(b) Factories not in (a) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	45	32	Nil	Nil
(c) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil





Factories contd

Cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted  (4)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)			
(a) Insufficient	3	3	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	Nil
	5	5	Nil

Part VIII of the ActOutwork

Glove making  
Wearing Apparel

Number of outworkers  
in August list required  
by Section 10 (i) (c) ... 14

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

The Building Regulations 1965 ensure that domestic appliances installed in new buildings are capable of burning smokeless fuels.  
There is no statutory obligation to use such fuels, until a smoke control area is created.





### Diseases of Animals Waste Foods Order 1957

The County Council's functions under this Order are delegated to this Council. The one boiling plant dealing with waste foods has ceased to operate during the year.

### Pet Shops

There are two licensed pet shops in the borough and regular visits are made to ensure that the conditions of the licence are observed.





